



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231
www.uspto.gov

| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/930,335 | 08/15/2001 | Graham Paul Matthews | 4-30811A/C1 | 1679 |

1095 7590 02/26/2003

THOMAS HOXIE
NOVARTIS, PATENT AND TRADEMARK DEPARTMENT
ONE HEALTH PLAZA 430/2
EAST HANOVER, NJ 07936-1080

EXAMINER

KWON, BRIAN YONG S

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1614

DATE MAILED: 02/26/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/930,335

Applicant(s)

MATTHEWS ET AL.

Examiner

Brian S Kwon

Art Unit

1614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10-23-03.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 and 11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 1614

DETAILED ACTION

Status of Application

By Amendment filed November 23, 2002, 11 has been amended. Claims 1-9 and 11 are currently pending.

Summary of Action

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 and 11 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any

Art Unit: 1614

evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-9 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Weder et al. (US 5726164) in view of Fricker et al. (US 5932243), and if necessary, further in view of Goldstein et al. (US 5599808), Caravatti et al. (US 5093330) and/or Henry et al. (US 5736542).

Weder¹⁶⁴~~'898~~ teaches or suggests an intravenous composition comprising N-benzoyl-staurosporine, hydrophilic components (e.g., sorbitan, mannitol, glucose, lactose and fructose), lipophilic components such as purified lecithin from soybeans (e.g., LIPOIDS 100) and fatty acid triglycerides (e.g., MIGLYOL 812) and surfactants such as polyoxyethylene sorbitan (e.g., TWEEN). See column 3, line 15 thru column 6, line 16; Claims 1-2.

Fricker et al. (US 5932243) teaches the use of an emulsion preconcentrate or microemulsion preconcentrate comprising a hydrophilic component (e.g., 1,2 propylene glycol, ethanol, etc...), lipophilic component (e.g., fatty acids triglycerides, transesterified ethoxylated vegetable oils, etc...) and a surfactant (e.g., polyoxyethylene-sorbitan-fatty acid esters, polyoxyethylene-polyoxypropylene co-polymers, phospholipids, etc...) in preparing stable oral composition containing macrolide (column 2, lines 20-40; column 3, lines 9-23; column 3, line 55 thru column 8, line 29).

The teaching of Weder¹⁶⁴~~'898~~ differs from the claimed invention in (i) oral composition; (ii) the specific dosage amount of active and inactive ingredients in a composition; (iii) and "a variability of bioavailability levels N-benzoylstaurosporine of from 5 to 17%", "AUC of from

Art Unit: 1614

380 to 2000", or "Cmax of from 60 to 310". However, the determination of a dosage amount or a dosage form having optimum therapeutic index is well within the level of one having ordinary skill in the art, and the artisan would be motivated to determine optimum amounts or dosage form to get the maximum effect of the drug. Furthermore, the determination of AUC or Cmax having optimum therapeutic index is well considered within the level of one having ordinary skill in the art, absent evidence to the contrary.

Those of ordinary skill in the art will readily optimize effective dosages and concurrent dosage forms as determined by good medical practice and the clinical condition of the individual patient. Regardless of the manner of administration, the specific dose may be calculated according to body weight, body surface area or organ size. Further refinement of the calculations necessary to determine the appropriate dosage for treatment involving each of the above mentioned formulations is routinely made by those of ordinary skill in the art and is within the ability of tasks routinely performed by them without undue experimentation.

Alternatively, one having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to modify the teaching of Weder¹⁶⁴ 898 such that bioavailability of N-benzoylstaurosporine (which has been well-known to have low or negligible bioavailability) would be greatly enhanced. One having ordinary skill in the art would have expected as taught by Fricker that the carrier components (hydrophilic, lipophilic and surfactants combinations) are useful in enhancing poor solubility drug. Furthermore, one having ordinary skill in the art would have expected that the carrier components used in Weder¹⁶⁴ 898 would have similar characteristics as the carrier components

Art Unit: 1614

used in Fricker, and would have been motivated to formulate the claimed N-benzoylstaurosporine composition having high bioavailability when administered orally.

Although the instant claims use the different names for the said ingredients than those taught in the cited references, these references are particularly pertinent and relevant because all the claimed species and their roles are well taught in the cited references. Thus, one would have been motivated to combine these references and make the modification because they are drawn to same technical fields (constituted with same ingredients and share common utilities, and pertinent to the problem which applicant concerns about MPEP 2141.01(a).

Conclusion

No Claim is allowed.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian Kwon whose telephone number is (703) 308-5377. The examiner can normally be reached Tuesday through Friday from 9:00 am to 7:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marianne Seidel, can be reached on (703) 308-4725. The fax number for this Group is (703) 308-4556.

Any inquiry of a general nature of relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

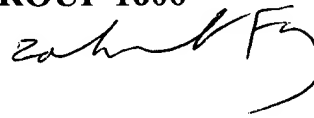
Application/Control Number: 09/930,335

Page 6

Art Unit: 1614

Brian Kwon

ZOHREH FAY
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 1600

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zohreh Fay", written below the printed name.